" tural Resources

MAR 28 1984

**Confidential Claim Retracted** 

Authorized by:

Mr. Richard Encino P. O. Box 1003 Paguate, New Mexico 87040

Dear Mr. Encino:

It has come to our attention that you, or your sheepherders are grazing your livestock within the Anaconda-leased area. This is creating a situation which may have adverse effects not only to yourselves, but the Pueblo.

Chemical samples of the soil and water have been analyzed as recently as March 9. 1984. Strong indication is present, that water within the leased area is toxic. It is reasonable to assume that if the chemicals are in the moisture, they will also be found in the plants that animals consume. Some of the chemicals that are consumed in small doses remain in the body, and continued grazing will allow chemicals to accumulate to a level where they may become toxic. What may not be obvious immediately, may have considerable effect at a later stage. The degree of toxicity is not fully known locally, but experiments are presently being conducted in other areas due to these concerns.

To further research the effects by the mine on the grazing livestock, a request is made to anyone whose herd has grazed on the lease area, to supply some tissue samples (meat, organs, etc.) for laboratory testing. This will not require large samples, and it would be appropriate to do at time of slaughter, or in the event that an animal dies.

Secondly, you are aware that the Pueblo is in the process of negotiating with Anaconda on reseeding the entire Jackpile area. Your premature grazing of the leased area not only undermines this attempt by the Pueblo to bring a waste area into productive grazing area, but you are placing the Pueblo in a position of accepting the conditions as is without the benefit of a long-term establishment of plant root system.

We support the Pueblo Council in their decision to proclaim the Jackpile-leased area to be off limits to grazing. You are, hereby, advised that no further grazing in the area be permitted.

We thank you for your voluntary restraint to enable us to complete restoration of the mine area to a useable state.

Sincerely,

cc: File . Chrono.-Natural Resources

Supt's RF Wilbur Louis

DCarr:WLouis:veo 3/27/84

/s/ Roland E. Johnson

Superintendent

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE** POL-EPA01-0008452

RECEIVED

APR 16 1984

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## Same letter to following:

Mr. Edward Carr P. O. Box 946 Paguate, New Mexico 87040

Mr. Ernest Sarracino P. O. Box 1015 Paguate, New Mexico 87040

Hr. Frank Aragon
P. O. Box 1004
Paguate, New Mexico 87040

Nr. Joseph Sousea, Sr. P. O. Box 292 New Laguna, New Mexico 87038

Mr. Lee Antonio
P. O. Box 1061
Old Laguna, New Mexico 87026

Mr. Robert C. Analla Box 165 New Laguna, New Mexico 87038

Mr. Allen Alonzo
P. O. Box 232
New Laguna, New Mexico 87038